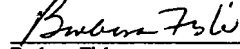


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Barbara Fisher
Date: August 31, 2006

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PCT International Application of:)
ADAMS, Nicholas James, et al.)
Int. Appl No.: PCT/EP2005/050860)
Int. Filing Date: 1 March 2005)
PROCESS TO CONTINUOUSLY PREPARE TWO)
OR MORE BASE OIL GRADES AND MIDDLE)
DISTILLATES) August 31, 2006

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Mail Stop PCT (DO/EO/US)
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
Dear Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.115

Prior to taking up the case for examination, please amend the application as follows: